GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:69
ANSWERED ON:17.10.2008
PENDING CASES IN VARIOUS COURTS
Mondal Shri Abu Ayes;Nandy Shri Amitava;Yadav Shri Ram Kripal;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending before the Supreme Court and various High Courts in the country during the current year;

(b) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the likely time to be taken by these courts for early disposal of the pending cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the various steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for reducing the pendency of cases before the Supreme Court and High Courts?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE(SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ)

(a): A Statement showing the number of cases pending before the Supreme Court and various High Courts is enclosed as Annexure.

(b) & (c): No assessment has been made by the Government in this regard as the time taken to dispose off a case in the court is within the exclusive domain of the judiciary.

(d): With a view to facilitating disposal of cases including pending cases in the superior courts, Government reviews the Judge Strength in the High Courts periodically and ensures prompt filling up of vacancies in the High Courts and the Supreme Court. In the last review undertaken in consultation with Chief Justice of India, the Government has decided to create 152 additional posts of judges in the following High Courts: -

1. Allahabad 65
2. Andhra Pradesh 10
3. Bombay 11
4. Calcutta 08
5. Delhi 12
6. Himachal Pradesh 02
7 Karnataka 01
8. Kerala 09
9. Madhya Pradesh 01
10. Punjab & Haryana 15
11. Jharkhand 8
12. Chhattisgarh 10
Total 152

The Government has also approved the increase in the judge strength of the Supreme Court from the present 25 to 30 excluding the Chief Justice of India.
The Government is implementing a scheme for application of Information & Communication Technology (ICT) in Judiciary which, inter-alia, provides for upgradation of the ICT infrastructure in the Supreme Court and the High Courts to facilitate expeditious disposal of cases.